

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 039890

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA 0741 ACTION STATE, WHITE HOUSE FEB 15.

QUOTE S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 0741

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR DAVID AARON FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, OCLR, PBOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SPECIAL EMISSARY

REF: WHITE HOUSE 80215

1. IN MEETING FEB 15 TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS OF PMAC
CHAIRMAN MENGISTU'S PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS, FONMIN
FELLEKE ASSURED ME THAT EPMG CONTINUES TO WELCOME ANTI-
CIPATED VISIT OF SPECIAL EMISSARY AARON AS POTENTIAL
MEANS OF RESOLVING CURRENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN
TWO COUNTRIES. HE SAW CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENTS AS EXPRES-
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SION OF ETHIOPIAN CONCERNS WHICH US GOVT SHOULD BE AWARE
OF AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION, IF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS
HERE ARE TO BE PRODUCTIVE. FULL REPORT OF MY DEMARCHE
AND FONMIN'S REPLY FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

2. AT SAME TIME FONMIN FLATLY STATED THAT IT WOULD
NOT RPT NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR EPMG TO MAKE NECESSARY

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN TIME FOR EMISSARY TO ARRIVE
EVENING FEB 16 BY US MILITARY AIRCRAFT. CIVILIAN
AIRCRAFT WOULD BE WELCOME, AS OF COURSE WOULD ARRIVAL
BY COMMERCIAL PLANE. MY REMONSTRANCES THAT OTHER THAN
MILITARY AIRCRAFT COULD PROBABLY NOT BE ARRANGED AT
THIS LATE DATE AND THAT CLEARANCE REFUSAL WOULD ALMOST
CERTAINLY RESULT IN AT LEAST POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT HAD
NO EFFECT ON FONMIN'S ADAMANTLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE.
ALTHOUGH FONMIN'S DECISION SEEMS CATEGORIC, EMBASSY
IS NEVERTHELESS PURSUING CLEARANCE QUESTION VIA OTHER
MEANS AND WILL ADVISE ASAP.

3. EMBASSY PASSING FONMIN TURNDOWN ON FLIGHT CLEAR-
ANCE REQUEST TO HQ USAF RAMSTEIN VIA SEPTTEL.
MATOERTON
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

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